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Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 02892 130521Z

15
ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 AID-20 DRC-01

/091 W
---------- 127368
R 130350Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7864
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USINFO WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, AF

SUBJ: RALLY ROUND THE (NEW) FLAG

REF: KABUL 2857

1. AT CEREMONY MAY 10 TO INTRODUCE NEW REPUBLICAN FLAG, PRESIDENT DAOUD GAVE SHORT SPEECH CARRIED LIVE THROUGHOUT COUNTRY BY RADIO. MIXED WITH PATRIOTIC AND ATNI-COLONIAL RHETORIC WAS FAMILIAR STATEMENT ON PASHTUNISTAN. (TEXT REPORTED REFTEL); THRUST BEING THAT BHUTTO'S RECENT EXPRESSIONS OF WILLINGNESS OF PAKISTAN TO MEET WITH AFGHANISTAN IN ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WERE PHONY AS PHRASE "ON BASIS OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY" WAS INDICATION OF PAKISTAN'S UNWILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS PASHTUNISTAN.

2. WHILE SPEECH DID NOT MENTION NEW CONSTITUTION, DAOUD DID SAY THAT AFGHAN PEOPLE "WILL BE PRIVILEGED TO ELECT AND APPOINT AS THEIR LEADERS PERSONS WHOM THEY CONSIDER WORTHY OF THE POSITION OF LEADERSHIP".

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3. IN RATHER OBLIQUE PASSAGE, DAOUD ATTACKED AS UNPATRIOTIC

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CRITICS WHO DOUBT GOVERNMENT'S "BELIEF AND PIETY" AND THOSE WHO DECRY "LACK OF IDEOLOGY", AND CALLED ON HISTORY TO BE JUDGE OF FALSITY OF SUCH CRITICISMS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE DAOUD'S APEEAL TO PATRIOTISM IS NOT LIKELY TO SATISFY EITHER RELIGIOUS CONSERVATIVES WHO SEE REGIME AS GODLESS AND COMMUNISTIC, OR LEFTIST ZEALOTS WHO FIND GOVERNMENT LACKING IN RADICAL COMMITMENT, IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT DAOUD CHOSE TO ADDRESS THESE CRITICISMS PUBLICLY. ALSO SOGNIFICANT THAT HE LEFT SECURITY-CONSCIOUS ISOLATION TO FACE PUBLIC AT PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED EVENT, GOING SO FAR AS TO MINGLE WITH FRINGES OF CROWD.
ELIOT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Event:
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TAGS: PDEV, AF, (DAOUD)
To: STATE
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